

SACWN Inc.

Volume 20
AUG/SEPT 2001

Sacramento Area Community Women's Network

This Is A Tax Break?

By Sue Charles

If you haven't already received your tax refund check compliments of the President's recently enacted tax legislation, "your check is in the mail." Now while I wouldn't want to diminish your pleasure at receiving the \$300 or more refund, I must admit that upon receiving mine I was tempted to return it with a note that read: "Dear Mr. President, You can keep your damned check until we gays and lesbians are allowed to marry and enjoy the tax benefits provided the married couples toward whom this legislation was slanted." I didn't do that, of course, because then the government would have even the tiny little crumb I received, probably only because they have yet to figure out how to separate (legally) unmarried me from the

"good" (read heterosexual) single folks.

Under this new tax law, married couples (especially those with children) receive a myriad of benefits, while single filers will benefit only from the scaling back of tax rates which, incidentally, applies only to the four highest tax brackets. By 2006, when a three-part phase-in is complete, only the 28%, 31%, 36% and 39% brackets will be trimmed by three percentage points. Single tax filers with more modest incomes - probably most lesbians - will get comparatively little. This year's \$300 tax break is scheduled to grow to \$350 in 2008 (whoopie!), but **unless the taxpayer's marital status** or income changes, that may

be all you will see of this "historic tax cut."

So here we are once again, penalized in a Catch 22 by politicians who refuse to give us the benefits of the very status they deny us. Kind of reminds me of all the years I worked in our State Legislature and the President's party was constantly trying to reduce welfare benefits while at the same time attempting to eliminate planned parenthood clinics and overturn women's reproductive autonomy (Choice). "Yes, ladies, we insist that you have those babies but we don't want to help feed them if you are unable to do so. In other words, a fetus is worthy of protection right up until the minute it is born" Speaking of Choice ... One wonders if this will be one of the President's next "historic" issues.

Making A Case For Community History

Two years ago, the GLBT Historical Society of Northern California, in conjunction with leading museum professionals in the Bay Area, began an innovative exhibitions program in San Francisco called "Making A Case for Community History". Now Sacramento's GLBT community has been offered the opportunity to develop a similar project, one which has the potential to affect all of California if exhibited here in the Capitol. Paul Gabriel, Exhibits Director of the San Francisco project, has graciously offered his assistance and expertise to our Sacramento community, and the curator of the State Capitol Museum has also expressed interest in the possibility of displaying such an exhibit -- a real coup for our community.

To sound out the viability of such a project, planning meetings are presently being scheduled with organizations, individuals and historical collection professionals being encouraged to participate. Although Making A Case for Community History is projected to be a year-long project, participation is needed now to help create an exhibit of which we can all be proud. Volunteers are

being sought for a wide variety of activities -- planning, development, networking, research, creative writing, searching for memorabilia -- an opportunity for everyone to be involved in one way or another.

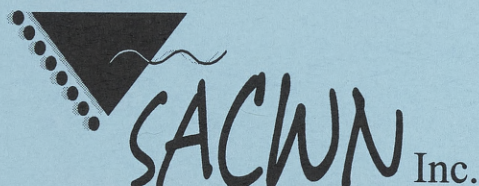
For additional information, you may contact Gail Lang at the Lavender Library, Archives & Cultural Exchange (LLACE) which is coordinating this project. Gail may be reached by phone at LLACE (492-0558), or by e-mail

Whatsuuuup!!!

We Have New SIGs
Check out the SIG pages for details.

Check your SACWN Activity and Message Line
(916) 451-8034

for all the latest information on events and activities or to leave a message so we may call you back.



P.O. Box 19036

Sacramento, CA 95819-0036

916.451.8034

SACWN1@aol.com

www.sacwn.org

ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

Diana L. 972.9465

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Chris 485.8451

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Sue 944.7055

STEERING COMMITTEE

Sue

Linda

Diana L.

Joyce

Debbie

Sandy

Millie

Nancy

Chris

Ninna

Dee

Sharon

THE SACWN MISSION

SACWN's mission is to provide lesbians with social activities in a safe and vibrant environment, a supportive network, and resources to link our diverse community.

SACWN NEWSLETTER POLICY

This newsletter is entirely dependent on volunteers. Please remember that we also have full time jobs.

In order to be included in the next newsletter, material must arrive in our mailbox or at our e-mail address by the 15th of month. We encourage submissions (e.g., Letters to the Editor, news items, photos, etc.). Please type submissions and include your name and phone number for verification. Submissions on diskette (Word97) or by e-mail are especially encouraged.

FREE ADS: This section is for selling things of a personal nature, advertising for a roommate or finding a lost love. These ads are FREE to SACWN members who are advertising for personal use (no business advertising).

BUSINESS ADS: Camera-ready ads are \$60, per business card size ad. Ads must be prepaid. Ads are on a 12-month/six issues per year basis. For more info, please contact Sandy at 916-944-7055.

NOTE: The SACWN newsletter expresses the opinions of the authors, and does not necessarily represent the opinions of the Steering Committee or the general membership. The editor reserves the right to exclude and/or edit the length of letters and articles.

CONFIDENTIALITY: SACWN takes the following precautions to insure the privacy of it's members:

1. The mailing list is never sold nor lent to anyone—be they other women's groups or inquiring lesbians.
2. The newsletter is always sent 1st class, rather than at the cheaper bulk rate.
3. Each newsletter is addressed to a specific subscriber, not "resident" or "household."
4. Newsletters are not sent to individual men

~~ Women who want to participate in the operation of SACWN are encouraged to contact any of the committee coordinators listed to the left.

Special Thanks...

To all of you who stopped by our booth at the Freedom Fair and to the wonderful women who participated in our 2nd Annual Golf Scramble Tournament. Also, a Special Welcome to all you new members who have recently joined SACWN. We look forward to seeing you at our events and activities.

FALL SOCIAL

Friday, September 21st

5 pm to 8pm

at

FACES, 2000 K Street, Sacramento



LIVE MUSIC BY ERIKA LUCKETT

Born in Mexico, raised in Brazil and Venezuela, Erika (pronounced Eddie-kah) played in the Paris subways as a teen, founded and toured with the world jazz ensemble, Wild Mango, and now brings her music into the singer/songwriter midst. The award-winning composer wraps her smoky vocals around melodies that pull you in and lyrics that hold you there.

No charge

Happy Hour and Hors d'oeuvres

Special Interest Groups

(SIGS) Bulletin



SACWN's SIGs are small, friendly groups of women who get together monthly (if not more often) to share activities of mutual interest. New members are always welcomed, so we encourage you to call the contact person listed to find out what activities are being planned.

If you are interested in forming a Special Interest Group (SIG), please contact Dee at 443-2377 with your idea. You could share a favorite hobby or interest with other women.

Rainbow Campers

Rainbow Campers, founded by the late Jayne Rountree, is a loose knit group of lesbians who get together and camp at preselected campgrounds each month, April through October. In memory of Jayne we held an impromptu meeting while camping at Coloma and decided on the following trips for 2001:

June 15,16,17 Casini Ranch.

Joyce & Barb 929-3074.

July 20,21,22 Olema (Pt. Reyes area). Joyce & Barb 929-3074.

October 19,20,21 Coloma. Mary 723-5269.

gust or September. Anyone willing to be a Wagon Master or who has an idea for where to camp please call Barbara at 929-3074. Destinations should be easily reached for those who work and would not be able to travel until late in the day or the next day.



How to Attend a Trip:

1. Call the Wagoneer for the trip(s) you want to attend. She will make the group reservation up to sixty days in advance of the scheduled camp date, so call her early.
2. The Wagoneer will tell you the site fee and cancellation date. She will request that you send her the fee for the number of nights that you plan to camp.

If you decide to cancel your reservation, call the Wagoneer before the cancellation date. Fee refunds cannot be made after the cancellation date.

These trips were decided "ad hoc". We have no trip ideas for May Au-

Top 10

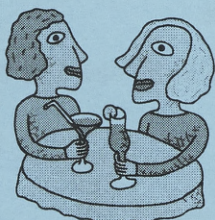
Top 10 is a group of women over fifty and women who love women over fifty. Each month we get together for a meal at a local restaurant or for special at-home potlucks.

Sunday, August 12, 2:00 p.m. - Ice

Cream Social at Mary S's. Bring your favorite toppings as the ice cream will be provided.

Call Mary at 916-395-4147 by August 9 to RSVP and get directions.

September Event - Contact Betty & Dot at 916-456-2577 by September 8th for details.



~~~~~  
**Newcomers**  
 Are you new to SACWN, new to the area or just want to meet new people? Then the Newcomers Group is for you! Come join this small, informal group for coffee and conversation. We look forward to meeting you. Call Chris at 485-8451 to find out about the next get-together.  
 ~~~~~



Garden Club
 The Garden Club shares information, plantings, takes landscape tours, and much more. If you're interested, please e-mail me at gpfgarden@cs.com or call Glenda 916-454-0246

Fool House Poker Group

Feeling lucky? Then join us for a friendly game of poker the **2nd Friday of every month**. Novice players welcome. I guarantee you'll have a good time. For game time and location, call Gretchen 916-922-6287 or Mary 916-723-5269.



Half-Fast Hiking Group

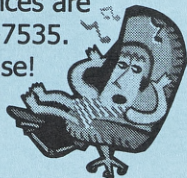
This is a well-organized, friendly group of serious hikers who know how to have fun. We are in our fourth successful year of day-hiking with hikes scheduled once per month all year long. We walk at a comfortable pace and usually average about five miles round trip on hikes that are rated easy to moderate. Call for a calendar of events and an information sheet. All newcomers will receive a warm welcome! Please join us for the time of your life! Call Linda or Julie at 731-5838:

August 19 – Point Reyes
September 9 – Angel Island
October 28 – Bridgeport
November 18 – Putah Creek
December 16 – River Trail Bike Ride



Women's Music

Are you interested in women's music? Do you want to support women musicians that have been involved in the women's movement for many years while having a good time? We will be going to live performances of women's music in Northern California. All are welcome to join us and enjoy the pleasures that listening to great music can bring. If you are interested in joining us or if you just want to know what performances are coming up call Pat—916-363-7535. Make sure you ask for Pat, please! You can also e-mail me at pwood314@yahoo.com



(SIGS Cont'd)

Arts & Entertainment

During the last couple of months, the very active A&E Group: went to see "Fosse" at the Community Center; attended Lambda's "Lesbian Laugh Fest"; went to S.F. to see Tony award-winning musical "Contact"; saw Lambda Players' "Beautiful Thing"; attended the Sacramento Zoo Tuesday to hear Latin jazz; viewed and enjoyed the movie "Lara Croft: Tomb Raider"; went to Juliana's Kitchen on 6/29 to hear women singers and songwriters present an eclectic mix of music; drove to S.F. again to see the "010101: Art in Technological Times" exhibit at the Museum of Modern Art; and saw "The Girl" at the Crest. Whew! There's no grass growing under our feet and, as you can see, our wide variety of activities provides something for everyone.

Coming Up:

Volcano Theatre Company is producing "Annabelle Broom, The Unhappy Witch", a fractured fairy tale, in their Amphitheatre. We will be going on **Friday, 8/17 and Saturday, 9/15** at 8:00 p.m. both dates. Tickets are \$10 General, \$9 Seniors (62+) payable at the Amphitheatre. Marilu C. is opening her home to us if staying overnight is an option for you. **Call Marilu at (209) 296-2554 eves/wkends for directions, etc.**

Sunday, 9/23 Anne Murray is appearing at Dalton Hall in Jackson Rancheria. Hall is smokefree. Call Sharon 487-9851 for more information.

For more information, and to suggest an event for the group, call Dee at 443-2377.

Volunteer to usher at a prominent playhouse & see the play as a thank you. Call Kathy 920-2162.

Single's Group

Saturday, August 18 at 1:00 p.m. come and have coffee at the Open Book, 910 21st Street (between I & J Streets)) and meet the new Singles Group facilitator. Her name is Pam and she is eager to hear your ideas for things to do of interest to singles in the community. The Singles Group has been without a group facilitator much too long so we know you will want to make her feel welcome. If you can't wait 'till August 18, you can reach Pam at 681-4310.

Non-Jock Sports Group

August 25 - Croquet and Badminton in the park at 9:00 a.m. RSVP Chris at 485-8451. Additional croquet and badminton sets needed. Please advise if you have one...

September 22 - Basketball. If you haven't played since high school, great! You're just what we're looking for. RSVP Chris at 485-8451

Racquetball: Looking for racquetball players for a fall challenge tourney. Again, call Chris.

(SIGS Cont'd)

Charitable Women

A group of women interested in doing charitable things throughout the year. Organizational Meeting, **Wednesday, August 22** at 7:00 p.m. at the Open Book. Please RSVP to Chris at 485-8451 or call her for further information.

SACWN Slashes Advertising Rate

SACWN has reduced the cost of business ads to \$60 per year.

Don't miss out on the best deal in town!
Call now and let us advertise your business to our membership.

ROSEMARY METRAILER
DOES SMALL BUSINESS

Law Offices of
Rosemary Metrailer

Mediator Arbitrator Business Law
2206 K Street, Suite 5
Sacramento, CA 95816
447-7258 Fax 447-7259
Rmetrailer a metrailer.com

Partnership

Incorporation

Leases/Contract

Review/Drafting

Skilled Negotiation

Mediation/Dissolution

Contract Arbitration

 **Merrill Lynch**

Private Client Group

Camille Wojtasiak, CFM
Financial Consultant
916 648 6229
800 937 0791

Merrill Lynch Life Agency
California License No. 0522776

1435 River Park Drive, Suite 100
Sacramento, California 95815
916-648-6229
800-937-0791
FAX 916-922-2738

Deborah A. Brooks

Certified Public Accountant



- ACCOUNTING
- TAX PLANNING
- TAX PREPARATION

My Place or Yours!

5350 Marysville Road
Browns Valley, California

PO Box 600
800-600-9339

KILLICK

Financial Services

Tax Preparation—Consulting
Bookkeeping—Payroll

Linda E. Killick
(916) 486-8985

2321 Lloyd Lane, Sacramento

We've Come A Long Way, Baby

By Sue Charles

There was even more purple in the audience than usual on July 21 as an enthusiastic crowd cheered on their favorite WNBA team at the first ever Gay Pride Night at the Monarchs. Touncing Detroit was just icing on the cake as our community celebrated the kind of large-scale public recognition we would have been denied just one year ago.

Many of you will recall the events of last summer when a lesbian group, the Davis Dykes, was initially refused the right to have their name displayed on Arco's scrolling marquee, a perk extended to all groups who purchase a block of at least 20 tickets. Thanks to a sympathetic Sacramento Bee columnist who raised the issue in the mainstream press (noteworthy progress in itself), Monarchs' owners quickly corrected an employee's unfortunate decision. SACWN Steering Committee members were present cheering in support of their sisters when, at a subsequent game, the Davis Dykes' name went up in lights. Though perhaps a small victory at the time, it is representative of how most social change occurs -- not through heroics but by the courage and tenacity of individuals and groups, such as the Davis Dykes, chipping away at the veneer of inequality. Today, who can doubt that their actions were probably the catalyst leading, in one short year, to a Gay Pride Night at Arco Arena. Incredible!

Then again, not so incredible when you consider economics. I feel relatively certain that the Monarchs' owners and management have sagely taken into consideration that well over half the team's season ticket holders appear to be lesbian, and it is the purchase of season tickets upon which a team depends for its survival. So, while I would prefer to believe that Gay Pride Nights are occurring here and elsewhere because of an epiphany of moral conscience, it is more likely that their occurrence is directly related to the WNBA's willingness to finally acknowledge it's most loyal and financially lucrative fans - lesbians.

In either case, I'll take it! Such an event was outside the realm of possibility a mere five or ten years ago. No matter what it's evolution, few things are more satisfying than standing up in public in a huge crowd of peers to acknowledge our pride and solidarity. We have truly come a long way.



Save This Date:

Saturday, October 27, 2001
SACWN's Fabulous
Halloween Dance

Details to follow in October newsletter

**Do you know where your charitable contributions are going?
Could they be going to an organization that has homophobic policies?
Check it out!**

Law Offices of
Nan L. Goodart

Nan L. Goodart
Attorney at Law

7230 South Land Park Drive
Suite 121
Sacramento, CA 95831
(916) 422-3000

Estate Planning
Living Trusts
Wills
Probate

SANDRA M. LITTLE, M.Ed., M.A.
Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist

**Counseling with individuals & families
Dealing with disabilities/chronic illness,
Lesbian/gay issues, relationships, aging**



**4135 Los Coches Way
Sacramento CA 95864
(916) 972-9389
CA lic. MFC 30653**

Tell us what you think...

In order for us to better plan events and grow as an organization, it would be very helpful for us to know what you think about a few things. Therefore, please take just a couple of minutes to answer the questions that follow. You can then call Chris with your answers at 485-8451 or email her at: spillitbuster@cs.com. If you prefer, you can always return the survey to us by mail at P.O. Box 19036, Sacramento, CA 95819-0036. If responding by phone or e-mail, be sure to list the number of the question and the letter(s) of your answer. Thanks in advance for your participation!

1. Currently a member of SACWN because:

- a. I like to support lesbian organizations.
- b. I meet new people through SACWN.
- c. What else is there?
- d. Other _____
(please specify)

2. SACWN Newsletter:

- a. Look forward to receiving it every two months.
- b. Faithfully read the articles.
- c. Wish I had a nice woman to read it to me.
- d. Mostly browse it for events and activities.
- e. Know I can place personal ads in the Newsletter for free.

3. SACWN Announcement Line: 451-8034

- a. Hello? Never heard of it.
- b. I know it's a recorded message of what's going on.
- c. I call it regularly.
- d. I know if I leave a message, someone will call me back.

4. SACWN Website:

- a. I've seen it.
- b. Wish I hadn't seen it.
- c. I could fix it for you.
- d. Other _____ (please specify)

5. Activities

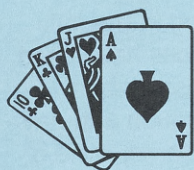
- a. I have attended at least one SACWN event in the last year.
- b. I have attended more than one in the last year.
- c. If you planned this _____
(please specify) I would come.
- d. My friends and I really enjoy:

6. In the last year, I have attended (SACWN events or otherwise)

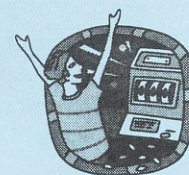
- a. Plays
- b. Brunches/lunches/dinners/potlucks
(please specify)
- c. Films
- d. Dances
- e. Socials
- f. Golfing events
- g. Musical performances
- h. Other _____ please specify

7. I am interested in volunteering:

- a. For absolutely nothing.
- b. Taste test foods for brunches.
- c. Telephone and beg other members to volunteer.
- d. Decorations.
- e. Organizing events.
- f. Other _____
(please specify)



TAHOE BUS TRIP



Join other SACWN women and friends on a one-day trip to Harvey's Casino, Lake Tahoe. The bus will leave McKinley Park (Alhambra at F Street) at 8:30 a.m. and will return at 8:00 p.m. The cost is only \$20 per person with a \$3 food coupon and a \$20 gambling card provided by Harvey's on arrival. It is our second year for this event. Last year's trip was a blast!

<i>Schedule:</i>	Check in at McKinley Park	8:30 a.m.
	Bus departs McKinley Promptly	9:00 a.m.
	Arrive Harvey's	11:30 a.m.
	Check in for departure	5:15 p.m.
	Bus leaves Harvey's Promptly	5:30 p.m.
	Arrive McKinley Park	8:00 p.m.

Seating will be limited so please assure your reservation by returning the attached form no later than 9/17/01 with a \$20 check or money order to: SACWN, PO Box 19036, Sacramento, CA 95819-0036. For more information or directions, call (916) 451-8034.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Reservation(s) @ \$20 each = \$ _____ enclosed

In The Life.....

In The Life is America's Gay and Lesbian Newsmagazine. They have a show every month on PBS (Channel 6). The only way to be sure when their next show airs is to check their website at www.inthelifetv.org as the shows are not usually listed in the mainstream TV information magazines.

In case you are not familiar with In The Life, the following is a sampling of some of the programs that have aired recently. If you are interested in ordering videos of any of the shows, call: 800-627-6688.

One program focused on gay families -- the sons and daughters of gay/lesbian parents -- and the issues the children and families are facing. Families experiencing difficulties can find sources of support by clicking on ITL Community Bulletin Board on the In The Life website.

Another segment dealing with health issues covered the story of a breast cancer survivor who opened a women's gym. It also covered the many services provided for lesbians by the Lesbian Community Cancer Project.

An In The News program focused on the lesbian explorer Ann Bancroft, one of the first women to cross the Antarctic on skis, finishing 94 days and 1717 miles later, a feat accomplished by using sails to help her travel when the winds were strong. As teachers, Ann and her exploring partner brought their adventures to over 3 million students around the world through using the internet.

Shelley Meyers was nominated by the Gay Financial Network as one of the 25 most powerful openly gay/lesbian executives in America. Shelley owns Meyers Pride Value Fund, one of the top 25 funds in the country, and looks for companies that have strong and

explicit policies protecting gays in the workplace.

A segment on the military, titled "Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Pursue" brought to light that only the U.S. and Turkey still prohibit openly gay men and lesbians from serving in the military. Twenty-three nations have lifted their bans against homosexuals in their armed forces. Although anti-gay "experts" predicted problems, none of these countries have reported any problems with unit cohesion, performance morale, or retention of soldiers.

And finally, a program about ASTRAEA, a lesbian action foundation that is one of the largest and oldest lesbian foundations in the world. They work for social justice and the advancement of lesbians and their allies. ASTRAEA also honors those in the community who have shown their dedication to this goal.

If you have not done so already, In The Life is worth checking out.

PARTNERS ENRICHMENT WEEKENDS

By Sue Charles

How many ways can you say "wonderful"?

It's difficult to find words that fully describe the tremendous benefits for couples who are lucky enough to attend the Partners Enrichment Weekends being made available to GLBT couples in Northern California. Specially designed for same-sex couples and facilitated by therapists, these workshops will infuse your partnership with insight, understanding and renewed passion.

In a safe, structured and nurturing environment, couples receive invaluable relationship information which is then blended with couples exercises and games which make the learning both interesting and fun. Topics covered included: how the baggage we bring from childhood affects our present relationships; what intimacy really is and how to achieve it; the importance of playing together; passion and romance; and working toward the future health of your relationship.

PARTNERS Enrichment Weekend

For Lesbian and Gay Couples

Friday, October 5, 2001, 7:00 p.m.
through Lunch on Sunday, October 7, 2001

Sierra Foothills, an hour from Sacramento

\$300 per couple -- Includes 2 nights lodging and 5 meals:
(Cost increases to \$330 after 9/4/01 and to \$360 after 10/1/01)

**Information: Call the PARTNERS voice mail
at (916) 484-4155 for more information or a
registration form**

We were truly enriched by our experience. We laughed, we cried, but most of all we connected more deeply than ever before. This was perhaps the most valuable investment of time and money we have yet made and one we unreservedly recommend to all couples who are willing to invest in themselves, each other and their future together.

Subscription/Membership Application

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-mail: _____

Phone: _____

☐ NEW☐ RENEWING

Waiver: I am aware that certain risks or injuries could occur arising from my participation in SACWN, Inc. events and/or special interest groups. In consideration of the right to participate in such events, some of which may involve strenuous activity (i.e. hiking, golfing, skiing, cycling, etc.), I hereby assume all risks and will hold SACWN, Inc. and its members harmless from all liability which may arise in connection with these activities.

(Signature)_____
(Date)_____
(Signature)_____
(Date)**CATEGORIES****RATES**

Regular

\$24.00

Sustaining

\$48.00

Limited Income

\$12.00

Rates are per household, per year and will be prorated based on the month in which you subscribe. The subscription year is February through January.

Please make checks payable to:

SACWN

Mail to:

SACWN**P.O. Box 19036****Sacramento, CA 95819-0036**

Volunteer Form

Can you volunteer? We need help in the following areas:

NEWSLETTER☐ Writers☐ Proofreaders & Editors☐ Layout & Graphics**ACTIVITIES:**☐ Event Organizers☐ Assistants☐ Planners☐ Decorations☐ Publicity☐ Dates

Comments, Suggestions, Viewpoints

Want to contact us but don't want to write? SACWN has voice mail and e-mail! Call us at (916) 451-8034 and leave a message. We will respond as soon as possible. OR you can send us e-mail at:
SACWN1@aol.com



PO Box 19036
Sacramento, CA 95819-0036



*Sacramento Area Community
Women's Network*

We're on the Web!
www.sacwn.org